

[22 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Tourist office	Arrivals 1997	Arrivals 1998	Arrivals 1999
Amsterdam	66375	76885	74148
Moscow	32190	29493	34620
Madrid	29758	33313	31731
Milan	58036	59552	59271
Stockholm	54148	54546	59106
Tel-Aviv	20162	21103	23417
London	377524	385613	354478
New York Los Angeles	250916	254774	251977
Toronto	78570	80111	82892
Buenos Air	17011	23701	37988
Dubai	116058	100052	117881
Johannesburg	98910	96045	129520
Tokyo	146880	129366	125108
Sydney	65387	80212	101237
Singapore	146205	133524	142358

Maintenance of Tourism Places

3228. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any scheme to build Yatri Niwas to cater to the needs of the middle-class tourist in the tourist places;
- (b) if so, the tourist places which are contemplated to build yatri niwas in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether Government will take efforts to increase the foreign exchange earning by way of proper maintenance and upkeep of tourist places to attract foreigners; and
- (d) the facilities provided to the foreign and domestic tourists at such tourists places in Tamil Nadu and in other States?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) proposals for construction of Yatri Niwases at Madurai and Yelegiri were prioritised for central financial assistance . in consultation with the Government of Tamil Nadu during 1999-2000. During the current financial year a project for construction of Yatri Niwas at Kodaikanal has been prioritised.

(c) and (d) Maintenance and upkeep of tourist places is the responsibility of the State Government/Union Territory concerned. However, Central financial assistance is provided by the Central Department of Tourism for tourism projects identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations. During the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 thirty-two projects of Yatri Niwases were approved and an amount of Rs. 1294.79 lakhs was sanctioned by the Central Department of Tourism for these projects in the country including Tamil Nadu.

Preservation of Temples in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

3229. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hampi treasure enlisted as World Heritage site is not being preserved properly;

(b) whether temples in Gorantla, Lepakshi and Tadipatri are required to be properly preserved; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to preserve the site properly with the cooperation of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka as it reflected history of Telugus and Kannadigas?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The centrally protected monuments in Hampi, Karnataka and those at Gorantala, Lepakshi and Tadipatri in Andhra Pradesh are in a fairly good state of preservation.

The cooperation of the respective State Governments are sought as and when required.